



**Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of Bridgwater Town Council's
Finance and Policy Executive Committee
held via video conferencing software Zoom on Thursday 10
December 2020 at 15:30hrs**

Present - Councillors

B Smedley - Chair

G Burrows

K Pearce

L Redman

M Lerry joined the meeting at 16:15

In Attendance:

David Mears – Town Clerk and Councillors G Slocombe and D Rodrigues. There were no members of the public or press present.

FEC2020/62 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

Apologies were received from Councillors Cordiner, Gibson and Lerry who had conflicting engagements.

RESOLVED – to receive the apologies and accept the reasons given.

FEC2020/63 Declarations of interests - Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

None declared

FEC2020/64 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday 12 October 2020 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Finance and Policy Executive Committee Meeting held on Thursday 12 October 2020 be signed as a correct record.

FEC2020/65 Draft Budget 2021/2022 – to discuss and recommend to Full Council the draft budget for 2021/2022

The Town Clerk introduced the Draft Budget for 2021/22 to members, which was discussed in full.

RESOLVED – to accept the Labour Group position with regard to the draft budget as indicative of the way forward and present to Full Council on 17th December, and seek any other amendments which may come in by that date.

FEC2020/66 Staff Payroll – to give authority to the Town Clerk to terminate the contract with Sedgemoor District Council for the payroll services of the Town Council and to bring the payroll in-house. NB this will represent a saving per annum circa £1,300.

RESOLVED – to give authority to the Town Clerk to terminate the contract with Sedgemoor District Council.

FEC2020/67 To resolve to exclude members of the press and public - To agree that agenda item FEC2020/49 and FEC2020/50 be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

RESOLVED - that agenda item FEC2020/68 and FEC2020/69 be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded

FEC2020/68 Staffing

a) *To receive a general staff update*

RESOLVED – to note

b) *To receive staff budget cost breakdown and to consider the pay increments for staff and promotion of one member of staff*

RESOLVED – to approve the staff budget cost breakdown, pay increments for staff and promotion of one member of staff as laid out.

FEC2020/69 Properties

a) *To receive an update on the awarding of contracts for the refurbishment of the Lodge at Quantock Road Cemetery and to give guidance to the Town Clerk on terms and conditions of tenancy*

RESOLVED – to note.

b) *To receive an update on the disposal of land at Bristol Road and to consider the request for the entrance and side parcel of land (represented due to new information to consider)*

RESOLVED – to support the taking the access road forward. Whilst in discussion with the Carnival, the Town Council should reiterate the importance of Carnival presence in the Town Centre which the Town Council can be a part of.

With no further business the meeting closed at 16:38

Signed

Date